

## Message Text

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44

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 SCS-03 SCA-01 RSR-01 /095 W

----- 076539

R 301226 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4323

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

CINCPAC

CDR JCRC NKP THAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENTIANE 4013

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PFOR, LA

SUBJECT: SEARCH FOR MIA'S IN LAOS: MIA EMMET KAY-  
MEETING WITH LPF SECRETARY GENERAL PHOUMI VONGVICHIT

REF: (A) VIENTIANE 3576 (B) STATE 100624 (NOTAL)

1. ACCOMPANIED BY PW OFFICER, MEET WITH LPF SEC GEN  
PHOUMI VONGVICHIT FOR 90 MINUTES THIS AFTERNOON. PRIMARY  
PURPOSE OF VISIT WAS TO DISCUSS MIA EMMET KAY AND TO  
DETERMINE STATUS OF OUR APRIL 30 REQUEST THAT EARLY  
CASUALTY RESOLUTION ACTIVITY BE PERMITTED THROUGHOUT  
LAOS.

2. PHOUMI INFORMED US THAT OUR REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
ON MISSING CASI PORTER AIRCRAFT AND PERSONNEL ABOARD  
HAD BEEN TRANSMITTED TO SAM NEUA SHORTLY AFTER OUR MAY  
10 MEETING. PHOUMI STATED THAT PRINCE SOUPHANANOUVONG  
REPLIED BY TELEGRAM THAT SINCE FEBRUARY 22 CEASEFIRE,  
FIVE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN BY THEIR FORCES AND  
THAT SOME OF THE PERSONNEL ABOARD WERE KILLED AND SOME  
WERE CAPTURED. THE TELEGRAM REPORTEDLY REQUESTED  
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DETAILED INFORMATION ON ALL FIVE AIRCRAFT, THE NAMES OF ALL PERSONNEL ABOARD, EQUIPMENT THEY WERE CARRYING, AND PURPOSE OF THEIR MISSIONS. UPON RECEIPT OF THIS INFORMATION, LPF WOULD ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE STATUS OF EMMET KAY. PHOUMI CLAIMED HE WAS NOT INFORMED WHETHER ANY OF THOSE KILLED OR CAPTURED WERE AMERICANS.

3. WE RECEIVED AN UNEQUIVOCAL REFUSAL ON OUR PROPOSAL TO DISSOCIATE SUBJECT OF MIS ACCOUNTING FROM OTHER PROVISIONS OF VIENTIANE AGREEMENT. PHOUMI STATED THAT HE WAS INFORMED BY PRINCE SOUPHANANOUVONG THAT THE SUBJECT MUST BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH TERMS AND THE TIME-FRAME PROVIDED BY THE AGREEMENT. HE REITERATED THAT IF THE USG DESIRES EARLY ACTIVITY ON CASUALTY RESOLUTIONS, WE SHOULD URGE RLG TO NEGOTIATE SERIOUSLY THE NECESSARY PROTOCOLS. HOWEVER HE DID STATE THAT INFORMATION RE US MIA'S COULD BE THE FIRST ITEM OF BUSINESS FOR DISCUSSION ONCE PROTOCOLS HAVE BEEN SIGNED.

4. I EXPRESSED OUR DISAPPOINTMENT ON LPF DECISION AS WE HAD HOPED THAT ON HUMANITARIAN GROUNDS THIS SUBJECT WOULD BE ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY. PHOUMI STATED THAT HIS PARTY HAD ACTED HUMANELY IN RELEASING THE LIVING US PW'S AND THAT ALL PARTIES SHOULD NOW BE CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEMS OF THE LAO PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL ALIVE.

5. COMMENT: RE PHOUMI ALLEGATION OF LPF SHOOTING DOWN 5 PLANES IN LAOS SINCE CEASEFIRE, WE ARE AT LOSS TO EXPLAIN HIS FIGURE. WE ONLY CAN ACCOUNT FOR 2 US AIRCRAFT -- AIR AMERICA C-123 K ON MARCH 7, 1973 AND CONTINENTAL PORTER ON MAY 7 WHICH ARE MISSING SINCE FEBRUARY 22, 1973. WE ASSUME THAT BALANCE ARE RLAF PLANES.

DEAN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Subject:** SEARCH FOR MIA'S IN LAOS: MIA EMMET KAY-  
**TAGS:** MOPS, LA  
**To:** BANGKOK  
CDR JCRC NKP THAI  
CINCPAC  
DPW  
SAIGON  
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